

RAISED BILL NO. 6618 "An Act Concerning Medical Assistance for Certain Persons Receiving Abortion Care and Related Services in Connecticut"

Dear Members of the Human Services Committee,

As a citizen and taxpayer in the State of Connecticut I object to State funds being allocated to support out-of-State women's abortions. Abortion is a traumatic experience that has physical, emotional, psychological, and social implications. A complex decision, it is most often opted for under pressure, coerced in some fashion if not actually forced, and even expected. This is a subtle form of abuse. Pregnant, a woman is most vulnerable. Women deserve better than a trip to the abortion clinic no matter the economic strata. Paying to help end a child's life in its beginnings is not long-lasting help to a woman in the cycle of poverty. The funds would be better put to use supporting her and her child through an education, proper health care and living conditions which bring the opportunity to work and thrive with dignity. Each State is capable of and needs to take the responsibility of assisting its underserved women in that way.

Further, the biggest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood, who has everything to gain from this type of legislation, should open its lucrative coffers rather than extract more than it does already for State funded abortions if they find it so necessary. Nearly half of its \$1.5 *billion* budget is from Medicaid and grants from HHS. And with the \$50 million they used to influence midterm elections they could have given a real boost to women's education and economy and dignity. Note, too, that they dominate the sex ed field, where more government funds are supplied. This sex ed is of a kind that promotes earlier and earlier sexual activity, trivializes sexuality with no commitment, no abiding love, and results in more pregnancies and ensuing abortions, which result in more government funds. See the pattern. Young people need stepping stones to growth in characteristics needed for adult responsibilities that cause one to flourish, not another form of exploitation.

Respectfully,

Lynn Philip

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